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AMESBURY CITY CLERK

SPONSORED BY:

*Kassandra Gove*  
Kassandra Gove, Mayor

BILL No. 2020-069

**An Order** to amend the City's Senior and Veterans Tax Work-Off Programs

**Summary:** The City previously accepted the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, sec. 5K and 5N (see Orders 2006-105 and 2012-088) in order to authorize the City of Amesbury to establish programs allowing citizens over the age of 60 and veterans to volunteer to provide services to the City in exchange for a reduction of the real property tax obligations they incur.

This amendment to the programs will set a total cap of thirty (30) individuals, including seniors and veterans combined, and will increase the total maximum reduction of the real property tax bill to \$1,500.00, to be based on the hours volunteered being tied to current minimum wage as set by state law.

**Be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:**

WHEREAS, Order 2006-105 established a Senior Real Estate Tax Reduction Program pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, sec. 5K; and

WHEREAS, Order 2012-088 established a program for veterans to volunteer to provide services in exchange for reduction in real property tax obligations pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, sec. 5N; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to establish limitations and rules and regulations for the above-referenced programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED THAT:

1. For both the Senior Real Estate Tax Reduction Program and the program for veterans to volunteer to provide services in exchange for reduction in real property tax obligations, only thirty participants in total shall be permitted, such participants to be chosen on a strictly first-come, first-served basis.
2. No person participating in the programs referenced herein shall receive a rate of, or be credited with, more than the current minimum wage of the Commonwealth per hour for services provided pursuant to such reduction nor shall the reduction of the real property tax bill exceed \$1,500 in a given tax year.